

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

To provide an information processing apparatus for efficiently managing documents and various procedures relating to a patent application. Information relating to a patent application is accumulated in a database for each case, and managed for due date. When an inventor has to study a case, a request to study the case is issued to the inventor through a network, and the state of the study by the inventor is checked through the network. Furthermore, a case is transferred to request a third party to study the case, and the transfer of document data overseas is managed according to laws and regulations.